

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously presented) A method of editing program code on a data processing system, the program code being suitable for subsequent processing, wherein the method includes the steps of:

defining at least two portions of the program code;

selecting a first defined portion of the at least two portions of the program code, wherein the first defined portion is a service instruction portion;

compressing a representation of the first defined portion in a visual representation of the program code such that content of the first defined portion is not visible in the visual representation of the program code, wherein a second defined portion of the at least two portions of the program code remains visible in the visual representation of the program code;

automatically disabling the first defined portion, the disabled first defined portion being excluded from the subsequent processing, wherein the second defined portion is subjected to subsequent processing, wherein disabling the first defined portion comprises automatically converting the service instructions in the first defined portion to comments in the program code by inserting comment tags in association with the service instructions;

receiving an input to re-enable the first defined portion; and

automatically re-enabling the first defined portion in response to receiving the input, wherein re-enabling the first defined portion comprises removing the comment tags associated with the service instructions.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

assigning each defined portion to a category of a set including at least one category, wherein the step of selecting the first defined portion comprising selecting at least one category.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein the set includes at least one category for service instructions.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of defining the at least two portions of the program code includes:
enclosing each portion between a starting comment and an ending comment.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, further including the steps of:
updating the program code by removing the first defined portion, and
storing the updated program code.

9-15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein compressing the representation of the first defined portion in the visual representation of the program code comprises:

replacing a visual representation of the content of the first defined portion with an identifier of the first defined portion, the identifier indicating a position in the program code where the first defined portion was present but not containing contents of the first defined portion; and

inserting, into the visual representation of the program code, a compression identifier in association with the identifier of the first defined portion, the compression identifier indicating that the first defined portion has been compressed.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the compression identifier is user selectable, and wherein, in response to a user input selecting the

compression identifier, the contents of the first defined portion are expanded in the visual representation of the program code and are re-enabled.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the at least two portions of the program code has an associated level, and wherein selecting a first defined portion of the at least two portions of the program code comprises receiving an input specifying a level such that portions of program code equal to or above the specified level are visually represented in the visual representation of the program code, and wherein portions of the program code that are not equal to or above the specified level are automatically compressed in the visual representation of the program code such that they are not visible.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the first defined portion and second defined portion are both of a same content type but have different associated levels.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein only portions of the program code that are visible in the visual representation of the program code are stored in a compressed version of the program code.

21. (Previously presented) A method of editing program code on a data processing system, the program code being suitable for subsequent processing, wherein the method includes the steps of:

- defining at least two portions of the program code;
- selecting a first defined portion of the at least two portions of the program code;
- compressing a representation of the first defined portion in a visual representation of the program code such that content of the first defined portion is not visible in the visual representation of the program code, wherein a second defined portion of the at least two portions of the program code remains visible in the visual representation of the program code; and

automatically disabling the first defined portion, the disabled first defined portion being excluded from the subsequent processing, wherein the second defined portion is subjected to subsequent processing, wherein the first defined portion of the program code is a comment in the program code, the method further comprising:

moving the first defined portion from its original position in the program code to a predetermined position within the program code to thereby generate re-organized program code; and

storing the re-organized program code.